



## **DELAWARE INSTITUTE OF DENTAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH (DIDER) QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Herman M. Holloway Sr. Health and Social Services Campus; Rm. 198  
1901 N. DuPont Highway  
New Castle, DE 19720

### **Meeting Attendance**

#### **Board Members Present:**

- Louis Rafetto, DMD (Chair)
- Theodore W. Becker, Jr.
- Nicholas Conte, DMD, MBA
- Lisa Goss, RDH, BS
- Bruce Matthews, DDS
- Wanda Gardiner Smith, DDS

**Meeting Facilitator:** Louis Rafetto, DMD (Chair)

#### **Board Members Absent:**

- Brian McAllister, DDS
- Ray S. Rafetto, DMD
- Howard Zucker, DDS

#### **Health Care Commission Staff Present:**

- Eschalla Clarke, Social Services Sr. Administrator

#### **Health Care Commission Staff Absent:**

- Kiara Cole, Community Relations Officer

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Louis Rafetto (Chair) called the meeting to order at approximately 3:10 p.m.

### **APPROVAL OF JANUARY 31, 2018 MEETING MINUTES**

Louis Rafetto ask for a vote to approve the January 31, 2018 meeting minutes. Bruce Mathews second the motion. All board members present in favor of approving the January 31, 2018 meeting minutes. Motion carried.



## **DIDER FUNDING UPDATE**

DIDER Chair, Louis Rafetto, presented on behalf of Ray Rafetto, who met with the Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long to discuss Adult Medicaid and creative ways to overcome financial hurdles.

Eschalla Clarke provided a DIDER funding update to the DIDER board. An invoice in the amount of \$200,000 was received from Temple University Kornberg School of Dentistry for five Delaware residents that are approved to be admitted. Additionally, the 2017-18 Kornberg School of Dentistry annual report and applicant list has been provided to the Delaware Health Care Commission and will be shared with the DIDER board via email.

DIDER is being considered for level funding in State Fiscal Year 2019 per Governor Carney's Recommended Budget. If approved, DIDER will continue to provide financial support to Temple University and the Delaware State Loan Repayment Program. The DIDER board discussed how to increase funding for DIDER. Dr. Louis Rafetto suggested partnering with the Delaware Institute of Medical Education & Research (DIMER) to share strategies on how to fundraise additional funds.

Lastly, the board discussed budgets for hosting a dinner in fall 2018 for students to increase engagement and the likelihood of students to practice in Delaware post-graduation.

## **DIDER GAP ANALYSIS**

Dr. Louis Rafetto provided an update on the gap analysis that was discussed with the attended board members at the January 31, 2018 board meeting. The analysis allowed board members to weigh in on the current and future state of DIDER to help identify strengths and weaknesses of the board and how the program can be improved. As a part of increased collaboration, there will be a joint meeting with DIMER, pending DIMER's approval. View the January 31, 2018 meeting minutes on the public calendar which outlines the gap analysis discussed in the January meeting at

<https://publicmeetings.delaware.gov/>.

## **NEW WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES (BLUE SKY CONCEPTS)**

1. The DIDER Chair is working with Temple University (Brian Hann) to host an informal dinner for Dental students in September (fall) 2018. No existing funds are available to cover expenses for this event. DIDER Board will collaborate with the Dental communities to make the Dinner possible. A menu was established and Bruce Matthews will secure the needed funds. Temple University will provide a venue allowing students convenient accessibility to the event.



2. Temple University is receptive to collaborating with University of Delaware (UD) on re-establishing a relationship accepting UD graduates with a given GPA and DAT scores. This was proposed about ten years ago, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was drafted and signed by Temple University. The University of Delaware had reservations and eradicated the agreement. Ted Becker revisited the conversation with Dean Kathleen Matt and found favorable reception to the conversation. Ted will add some time to Dean Matt's calendar within the coming week to discuss the possibilities in further details. The Chair will reach out to Temple University for a copy of the previous MOU agreement.
3. Representation on Delaware Health Care Commission (DHCC) is critical. DIDER should be in the room and have a voice at the table. Ted Becker is working with the DHCC Executive Director, Ann Kempinski to determine the possibilities. There are currently no vacancies on the Commission, but a seat in the audience is also a good place to have your voice heard as well. DHCC meetings take place on the first Thursday of every month at 9:00AM in Dover and some of the meetings will be hosted in New Castle County (Herman Holloway Campus) in the future. A number of years ago DIDER had a temporary seat at the table for six meetings, but was terminated once the issue was resolved. Nicholas Conte, the State Dental Director is receptive to participating in an Ex-Officio position or on a quarterly basis. Ted Becker recommended getting on the DHCC agenda for a future meeting to discuss opioids crisis in dentistry, mental health, and aging.
4. The Board discussed the possibility of reinstating Tuition Assistance back into the State's budget language. The restructuring of the Temple Agreement to include Tuition Assistance.

#### **RE-ENERGIZE STATE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM TO BENEFIT DIDER STUDENTS**

As it stands now, Delaware State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP) is not attractive to practicing dentists mainly due to the practice site and matching funds requirements. One dentist practicing at a New Castle County Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) received a SLRP award in the advance category.

#### **UPDATE FROM THE STATE DENTAL DIRECTOR**

Nicholas Conte, Dental Director, Division of Public Health (DPH), provided an update regarding activities and initiatives. A full-time provider has recently been hired to work in the Sussex county clinic in Seaford, Delaware. Additionally, Gabrielle Hilliard has been hired to manage grant activities. She was formerly an employee for the Division of Medicare & Medicaid and the team is excited to have her on board.



DPH in partnership with the Dental Society is in the process of developing an Opioid Toolkit that will target providers. Furthermore, dental education programs are ramping down and have been leveraged to close some of the gaps of disparities for care targeted to the disabled population. School-based activities and educational programs are ramping down which help to close gaps in disabled population disparities around the State.

DPH is taking the opportunity with the new providers to consolidate all community outreach programs and put them under one umbrella. The focus is to present program information to schools and open opportunities for screening visits, sealants, transportation from school to a State funded clinic for care. The objective is to connect the child with local providers once the programs are pulled out of school.

Lastly, there will be a three day course that will take place in June regarding Opioids and marijuana which is effecting our states' population.

## **2018 MEETING COLLABORATIONS**

Dr. Louis Rafetto proposed a combined meeting with the Delaware Institute for Medical Education and Research (DIMER) Board members. The next DIMER meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2018 and Dr. Rafetto suggested that this would be a good time to collaborate with DIMER. Agenda topics proposed are; Collaboration with regards to funding opportunities, Advertising for the Program, Aligning Initiatives with DIMER, and share strategies/contacts.

Meetings will continue to be hosted on a quarterly basis, especially in consideration of future funding advocacy efforts. In-Person meetings will be scheduled as follows;

- 2 meetings hosted in New Castle County (Holloway Campus)
- 1 meeting hosted in Kent County (Margaret O'Neil Building)
- 1 meeting collaboration with DIMER in Newark (University of Delaware, STAR Campus)

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Alexandra Rafetto will have an article published in the next Dental Society Newsletter, Office Based Practice Research: Opioid Prescribing. The article discusses the results of surveys relating to opioid prescriptions. The article will be circulated via email to the Board after the meeting. Ted Becker recommended presenting the below data to the DHCC.

*"A recent study reported 80% of heroin had their first exposure to prescription drugs was from a dental procedure."*



Futhermore, drug take-back days are not being conducted frequently enough. Currently they are being held bi-annually and leaves prescription drugs laying around for far too long. One of the biggest add-ons to at-home security alarm systems are drug cabinet alarms which allow individuals who are taking prescription drugs to alert them to ensure no one is interfering or have access to drugs that are not prescribed to them. On April 28, 2018 the City of Lewes conducted a Drug Take-back Day and the Police Department took in 180 pounds, last fall they pulled in about 140 pounds, and the City had been doing this for three years.

Milford Veteran Affairs (VA) has a dental shortage. The Federal Government staffs this location.

#### **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:30 p.m. The next DIDER Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 12, 2018.